

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker on Friday, December 3, 2021:

H.R. 6119. An Act making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Robert Joseph Dole.

Thereupon (at 9 o'clock and 57 minutes p.m.), under its previous order and pursuant to H. Res. 839, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 10 a.m., as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Robert Joseph Dole.

AMENDED NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS AND TRANSMITTAL FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL

U.S. CONGRESS,
OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL
WORKPLACE RIGHTS,
Washington, DC, December 7, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Section 304(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act (CAA), 2 U.S.C. §1384(b)(3), requires that, with regard to substantive regulations under the CAA, after the Board of Directors of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights (Board) has published a general notice of proposed rulemaking as required by subsection (b)(1), and received comments as required by subsection (b)(2), "the Board shall adopt regulations and shall transmit notice of such action together with a copy of such regulations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate for publication in the *Congressional Record* on the first day on which both Houses are in session following such transmittal."

The Board has adopted the regulations in the Amended Notice of Adoption of Substantive Regulations and Transmittal for Congressional Approval which accompany this transmittal letter. The Board requests that the accompanying Amended Notice be published in the House version of the *Congressional Record* on the first day on which both Houses are in session following receipt of this transmittal. The Board has adopted the same regulations for the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the other cov-

ered entities and facilities, and therefore recommends that the adopted regulations be approved by concurrent resolution of the Congress.

Any inquiries regarding this notice should be addressed to Susan Tsui Grundmann, Executive Director of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, Room LA-200, 110 2nd Street, S.E., Washington, DC 20540; 202-724-9250.

Sincerely,

BARBARA CHILDS WALLACE,
Chair of the Board of Directors,
Office of Congressional Workplace Rights
Attachment.

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS
AMENDED NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS AND TRANSMITTAL FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL

Modifications to the rights and protections under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA), Amended Notice of Adoption of Regulations, as required by 2 U.S.C. 1384, Congressional Accountability Act of 1995, as amended (CAA).

Background:

Section 304(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act (CAA), 2 U.S.C. §1384(b)(3), requires that, with regard to substantive regulations under the CAA, after the Board of Directors of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights (Board) has published a general notice of proposed rulemaking as required by subsection (b)(1), and received comments as required by subsection (b)(2), "the Board shall adopt regulations and shall transmit notice of such action together with a copy of such regulations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate for publication in the *Congressional Record* on the first day on which both Houses are in session following such transmittal."

Section 202 of the CAA (2 U.S.C. 1302 et seq.), applies the rights and protections of sections 101 through 105 of the FMLA to covered employees in the legislative branch. On June 22, 2016, the Board adopted and submitted for publication in the *Congressional Record* amendments to its substantive regulations regarding the FMLA. 162 Cong. Rec. H4128-H4168, S4475-S4516 (daily ed. June 22, 2016). As set forth in the Board's accompanying *Notice of Adoption of Regulations and Transmittal for Congressional Approval*, the 2016 amendments provide needed clarity on certain aspects of the FMLA. Congress has not yet acted on the Board's request for approval of these amendments.

The purpose of this *Amended Notice of Adoption of Regulations and Transmittal for Congressional Approval* is to announce adoption of additional modifications to the existing legislative branch FMLA substantive regulations. Specifically, on December 20, 2019, Congress enacted the Federal Employee Paid Leave Act (subtitle A of title LXXVI of division F of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, December 20, 2019) (FEPLA). FEPLA amended the FMLA to allow most civilian Federal employees, including eligible employees in the legislative branch, to substitute up to 12 weeks of paid parental leave (PPL) for unpaid FMLA leave granted in connection with the birth of an employee's son or daughter or for the placement of a son or daughter with an employee for adoption or foster care. These additional modifications are necessary in order to bring existing legislative branch FMLA regulations (issued April 19, 1996) in line with these recent statutory changes.

What is the authority under the CAA for these substantive regulations?

Section 202(a) of the CAA provides that the rights and protections established by sec-

tions 101 through 105 of the FMLA (29 U.S.C. 2611-2615) shall apply to covered employees in the legislative branch. Section 202(d)(1) and (2) of the CAA require that the Board, pursuant to section 304 of the CAA, issue regulations implementing the rights and protections of the FMLA and that those regulations shall be "the same as substantive regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Labor to implement the statutory provisions referred to in the subsection (a) [of section 202 of the CAA] except insofar as the Board may determine, for good cause shown . . . that a modification of such regulations would be more effective for the implementation of the rights and protections under this section." The modifications to the regulations proposed by the Board herein are on all matters for which section 202 of the CAA requires regulations to be issued.

Are there currently FMLA regulations in effect?

Yes. On January 22, 1996, the OCWR Board adopted and submitted for publication in the *Congressional Record* the original FMLA final regulations implementing section 202 of the CAA, which applies certain rights and protections of the FMLA. On April 15, 1996, pursuant to section 304(c) of the CAA, the House and the Senate passed resolutions approving the final regulations. Specifically, the Senate passed S. Res. 242, providing for approval of the final regulations applicable to the Senate and the employees of the Senate; the House passed H. Res. 400 providing for approval of the final regulations applicable to the House and the employees of the House; and the House and the Senate passed S. Con. Res. 51, providing for approval of the final regulations applicable to employing offices and employees other than those offices and employees of the House and the Senate. After the Senate and the House passed these resolutions, the Board formally issued the FMLA regulations on April 19, 1996.

What does the FMLA provide?

In general, the FMLA provides eligible employees the right to take a total of 12 workweeks of unpaid leave during any 12-month period for specified family and medical reasons and for specified circumstances relating to a family member's military service. Employing offices in the legislative branch covered by FMLA provisions of the CAA must provide unpaid leave to eligible employees: (1) for the birth of a son or daughter and to care for the newborn son or daughter; or (2) for placement with the employee of a son or daughter for adoption or foster care; (3) to care for the employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent with a serious health condition; (4) because of a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the functions of the employee's job; (5) because of any qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that the employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent is a military member on covered active duty status; and (6) to care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness if the employee is the spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin of the covered servicemember.

How do the FEPLA amendments affect the FMLA as applied to the legislative branch?

The FEPLA amendments to the FMLA include provisions expressly applicable to the legislative branch that both: (1) change the eligibility rules for employees to take protected leave for births or placements under the FMLA; and (2) permit employees to substitute PPL and other paid accrued leave for unpaid FMLA leave for such births or placements. The FEPLA amendments are summarized below.

For purposes of FMLA leave with respect to any birth or placement, all covered employees in the legislative branch are eligible